THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per inquiries conducted by BSF no such cross-border tunnel underneath the fencing along the international border in Rajasthan could be located. Strict vigilance is being maintained by the BSF to check illegal trans-border activities.

Terrorist groups behind bomb blasts

936. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government agencies recently arrested more than 39 top ranking SIMI leaders in various States in connection with serial bomb blasts in Delhi, Jaipur, Surat, Ahmedabad etc. which showed striking similarities with the bombings in jaipur, including the manner in which the bombs were assembled and planted;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government Interrogators have come to know that "Muslim Technical Persons Organization" and "Home Grown Islamic Terror Group" are also operating in the country; and

(c) if so, who is behind above mentioned terrorists groups operating in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) As per available information, 28 persons were arrested in connection with serial bomb blasts in Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Surat and Delhi from Mumbai, Pune, Mangalore, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi in addition to 23 SIMI activists from Ahmedabad, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for providing logistic support and footwork in connection with the above mentioned blasts.

(b) and (c) There is no information of any group/organization like 'Muslim technical persons organisation'. However, interrogation of the arrested persons has revealed that they received support from various professionals.

Steps to curb cross-border terrorism along Indo-Bangla Border

937. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government has adopted to curb the cross border terrorism through Indo-Bangladesh border;

(b) whether Government is aware that illegal migration from Bangladesh through North-Eastern States is one of the major reasons for prevalence of terrorism in the States and in the country;

(c) the steps taken by Government to protect the lives of innocent people of Assam State in details;

(d) the steps taken by Government to step the illegal uninterrupted flow from Bangladesh and detect and deport these migrants; and

(e) the details of the reasons that stops Government to detect and deport the illegal migrants since signing of the Assam Accord, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) The Government has taken up various measures to enhance vigil and control cross-border terrorism, which *inter-alia* include strengthening of Border Guarding Forces and equipping them with modern and sophisticated equipments and intensification of patrolling and reduction in gaps between border out posts; and also a comprehensive programme of construction of border roads and border fencing/floodlights. Besides, the Government has taken up this issue in bilateral talks with Government of Bangladesh.

(c) and (d) The Government has also taken various steps to protect the lives of innocent people from terrorism in the State of Assam. These include, *inter alia*, countering terrorism by way of deployment of Paramilitary Forces and Army in the State; coordinated action by Army, Para Military Forces and State Police for counter insurgency operations; declaration of insurgent groups as unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967; declaration of "disturbed area" under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958; and upgradation of State Police Force. Regular review of the situation both at State and Central Government level is being undertaken.

The Government has taken various steps to strengthen the Border Security Force and equipping them with modern equipments, reduction of gaps between the border posts and intensified patrolling. The border fence along the Bangladesh border is being strengthened and scheme for floodlighting has been undertaken. The State Governments and Union Territories' Administrations under Section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detect and deport foreign nationals illegally staying in India. Administrative instructions are issued from time to time requesting the State Governments/UT Administrations to detect and deport illegal Bangladeshi migrants staying in the country. Besides the issue of illegal migrants from Bangladesh is regularly taken up at various fora and steps have been taken for coordinated patrolling, identification of vulnerable gaps, strengthening of riverine patrolling etc. Bangladesh has also been requested to take effective steps to check the illegal movements of their nationals into India, specially through vulnerable and riverine arreas.

(e) 32 Foreigners' Tribunals have been set up for detection of illegal migrants/foreigners in Assam. In order to detect Bangladeshi nationals who came to India between 1.1.1966 and 24.3.1971, during the period 1985 to 2008 (as on 31.10.2008) a total of 5,59,224 inquiries were initiated by the State Government. Of this, 5,51,479 inquiries were completed and 63,902 cases were referred to the Foreigners' Tribunals. The Tribunals have disposed of 35,858 cases and declared 30,522 persons as foreigners. Of this, 12,454 persons have registered their names with Foreigners' Regional Registration Officer (FRRO). Quit India Notices have been issued to 14,692 declared foreigners. In regard to illegal migrants who came on or after 25.3.1971, between 1985 to 2008 (upto 31.10.2008), the State Government has initiated inquiries in 4,44,396 cases. Of this, 4,37,661 number of inquiries were completed and 1,12,791 cases were referred to the

Tribunals. Of this, 24,021 cases were disposed of by the Tribunals and 14,778 persons have been declared as illegal migrants. The detection and deportation of foreign national/illegal migrant is a continuous process and action is being taken by the Government regularly for detection of illegal migrants and their deportation.

Trafficking of drugs and arms along India-Myanmar Border

938. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large amount of drugs, narcotics and arms trafficking takes place along India-Myanmar Border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details, how Government contemplates to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) The Indo-Myanmar border is long, porous and not fenced. A free movement regime for indigenous tribals also exists. In the circumstances, the border is vulnerable to illegal cross-border activities/crime including trafficking of arms, drugs and narcotics. As per details available from the designated Border Guarding Force, details of seizure/recovery are as below:—

Year	Arms	Ganja	**Drugs** Heroin	**(in kg.)** Opium	Brown suger
2005	203	34918	0.215	0.250	0.015
2006	332	26384	1.015	0.100	—
2007	322	14445	1.218	12.020	0.265
2008	516	10457	—	7.200	0.075
2009 upto 16.2.2009	65	562	—	98	—

In addition, the Narcotics Control Bureau has reported that the following quantity of heroin (suspected to have been trafficked from Myanmar) was seized in the North-Eastern States during the last three years:—

2006	2007	2008 (Provisional)
7.550 kgs	6.780 kgs	12.650 kgs

(c) The Assam Rifles has been deployed on the India-Myanmar border and a multi-pronged operation strategy has been put in place to curb the cross-border crimes including smuggling of drugs, narcotics and arms. *Inter-alia*, the following measures have been taken:—

(i) Effective domination of the International Border by means of patrolling, round the clock surveillance and effective deployment of Force in sensitive areas.